SUBSCRIBE

Al

HEALTH

Ontario long-term care residents allowed to leave for day trips, overnight

By **Staff** · **The Canadian Press**
Posted August 28, 2020 3:20 pm

A man takes a walk outside the Seven Oaks Long-Term Care Home in Toronto on Thursday, June 25, 2020.
THE CANADIAN PRESS/Frank Gunn

-A A+

Residents of Ontario's long-term care homes are once again allowed to leave for day trips or overnight stays, though the province says anyone staying out overnight will need to self-isolate on return.

The Ontario government says it's loosening measures meant to curb the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care homes based on advice from its chief medical officer of health.

The move comes roughly a month after homes reopened their doors to visitors following months of barring all but the most essential from coming inside during the pandemic.

READ MORE: Ontario government fast-tracking construction of Toronto long-term care home

The province says residents who leave a home for a day trip must be given a mask to be worn at all times when outside, provided they can tolerate it.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

They must also be screened for symptoms when they come back to the home.

[Sign up for our Health IQ newsletter for the latest coronavirus updates]

The government says those making overnight trips must self-isolate for 14 days when they return, in order to protect other residents.

TRENDING STORIES

Data in favour of mixing COVID-19 vaccines, but long-term effects unknown: experts

Trudeau government, N.S. announce $10-per-day childcare for province by 2026

It says overnight stays will be granted at the discretion of each home on a

case-by-case basis, depending on risks associated with the outing and the home's ability to help residents self-isolate.

READ MORE: Get for-profits out of Ontario long-term care, unions say as they launch campaign

"This is a day we have all looked forward to, and it is my hope that these welcome changes will improve our residents' quality of life, while keeping them safe," Merrilee Fullerton, the minister of long-term care, said in a statement.

"As Ontarians begin to resume their pre-COVID activities, residents in long-term care will be able to get out and about in their communities and spend time with loved ones again."

The province says it will release an updated policy for visits to long-term care homes next week.

2:07

Political conflict over Ontario long-term care funding

Political conflict over Ontario long-term care funding – Jul 9, 2020

Canadian cases

CONFIRMED	DEATHS	AT LEAST ONE DOSE	FULLY VACCINATED
1,421,327	26,446	78.73%	50.69%
(today: +200)	(today: +7)	of Canadians aged 12+	of Canadians aged 12+

Source: Esri Canada

Check out our Coronavirus Tracker for more details and maps

Last Updated: July 13, 2021, at 11:00:00 am EST

© 2020 The Canadian Press

JOURNALISTIC STANDARDS REPORT AN ERROR

COVID-19 Coronavirus coronavirus news covid-19 news +10

COMMENTS

SPONSORED STORIES

45 Hair Shapes That Make A Woman Over 60 Look 40

BleacherBreaker | Sponsored

[Photos] Twiggy Turns 71, This Is Her Today

The Chef Pick | Sponsored

[Photos] This Is PM Justin Trudeau's Net Worth In 2021

Witty Reporter | Sponsored

Sponsored by dummyVideoSource